

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall votes No. 167, 168, and 169 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been here I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 167, "yea" on rollcall No. 168, and "yea" on rollcall vote No. 169.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF REGENTS OF SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of section 5580 and 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution:

Mr. MATSUI, California.

There was no objection.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 435 REGARDING 1999 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, just briefly I want to commend the House for an action taken earlier on the passing of a suspension, which was the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act.

This would temporarily suspend customs duties on participants in upcoming athletic events being held in the United States, including the 1999 Women's World Cup. I commend the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. THURMAN) who sits on the Committee on Ways and Means for her leadership on this, as well as the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) who managed the bill here and the leadership on the Republican side, as well as the officials at the Women's World Cup organizing committee, especially their Chair Donna de Varona for their work to pass this provision.

All of the players, trainers, coaches and family members participating in the Women's World Cup have been on a long and challenging road to reach the finals. Representing six continents, these individuals are some of the best athletes in the world. I welcome, and I know this entire Congress joins in welcoming them to this country and wish them all the best of luck.

Our colleagues, in voting in favor of H.R. 435, welcome them indeed and help to ensure that the Women's World Cup is one of the most successful sporting events ever held. I thank my colleagues for their overwhelming vote.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of an amended H.R. 435, the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act, the original version of which already passed the House by vote of 414 to 1.

I am pleased that H.R. 435 contains a provision to temporarily suspend customs duties on

participants in upcoming athletic events being held in the United States, including the 1999 Women's World Cup.

I commend the dedicated efforts of my colleague from Florida, Representative THURMAN, who sits on the Ways and Means Committee, as well as of officials at the Women's World Cup Organizing Committee, namely their chair, Donna De Varona, for their work to pass this provision.

When the 1999 Women's World Cup officially kicks off in 12 days, it will be the largest women's sporting event in history. With 16 countries participating and over 400,000 tickets already sold, the United States will be host to an international contingent of some of the world's best athletes, as well as numerous foreign dignities. Preparations are currently being finalized to ensure that this event is an international success and that the United States remains the premier staging ground for international sporting events.

As a courtesy to participants in international athletic events, Congress has historically voted to temporarily suspend customs duties on the personal effects of participants in such athletic events and participants in the Women's World Cup deserve the same treatment. Suspending these duties will allow for a smoother entry process by ensuring that participants and their families do not have to pay entry duties on the equipment and other items they bring with them.

All of the players, trainers, coaches and family members participating in the Women's World Cup have been on a long and challenging road to reach the finals. Representing six continents, these individuals are some of the best athletes in the world. I welcome them to our country and wish them all the best of luck.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 435 and thus help ensure that the Women's World Cup is one of the most successful sporting events ever held.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 111

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 111.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

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SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. EWING). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

THE SITUATION IN KASHMIR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in the past few weeks tensions have increased in the area that is known as the "roof of the world," and that is India's state of Jammu and Kashmir, located in the western Himalayan Mountains. For years they have been victimized by foreign militants, mercenaries affiliated with Islamic extremist groups, and supported by Pakistan, who have imposed a reign of terror on the inhabitants of the state, and this spring the Pakistan-backed infiltrators took over Indian defensive positions located on India's side of the line of control near the town of Kargil. India has responded to this incursion on its territory by exercising its legitimate right of self-defense.

Mr. Speaker, recently Pakistan's Ambassador to the U.S. has complained of what he called a "bias in favor of the Indian position" by our State Department. Ambassador Kokhar was apparently upset about a statement made by State Department spokesman James Rubin at his regular press briefing in which Mr. Rubin described the Kashmiri Mujahideen as infiltrators from Pakistan on India's side of the line of control. Mr. Rubin also stated that insertion of any additional fighters from across the line of control will only increase tensions and prolong the fighting.

Mr. Speaker, I find it a little ironic that the Pakistani Ambassador complained about a pro-India tilt at the State Department, since for years the State Department has demonstrated what I consider to be a pronounced pro-Pakistan tilt. In fact, in the first few days of the current conflict, the State Department seemed to be going out of its way to suggest that both countries were equally guilty. At last week's briefing, the State Department spokesman was just stating the facts, describing the situation in Kashmir as it truly is. I hope that the State Department and other administration officials will not bow to Pakistani pressure in characterizing the current conflict in Kashmir. It is clear that Pakistan has had a major role in precipitating this current conflict. Pakistan has for years tried to internationalize its bilateral dispute with India over Kashmir, and it is a strategy we cannot allow to succeed.

Officially, Pakistan claims that it only provides political and moral support for militants in Kashmir, although I think it is highly inappropriate to use the term "moral" for a campaign of terror that has claimed thousands of victims, both Hindu and Muslim, and has made refugees of hundreds of thousands of Kashmiri pundits. Mr. Rubin's statement indicates a recognition of the obvious fact that the militants have crossed over from Pakistan. Indeed, Mr. Speaker, there are reports indicating that these well-trained mercenaries are not only supported by

the Pakistani Army, but that Pakistani Army regulars may be participating in the infiltration of India.

The bottom line, Mr. Speaker, is that India has undertaken a defensive operation to repulse hostile infiltrators, and India has taken appropriate steps to keep its neighbor Pakistan and the world community informed about its actions. The militants are occupying strategic locations, threatening to alter the current line of control that was established by the U.N. in a negotiated cease-fire and which both countries officially recognize and honor, almost as a de facto international boundary. India could not stand by and allow this to continue.

During this conflict, India's Prime Minister Vajpayee has been in contact with his Pakistani counterpart, Prime Minister Sharif, and the Directors-General of Military Operations of India and Pakistan have been in contact with each other over the hotline installed to defuse tensions between the two countries. The U.S. Ambassador to India, Richard Celeste, has been briefed by both the Defense Department and the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi. The week before last, India's Ambassador to the United States came up to Capitol Hill to brief Members of Congress, and other friendly governments have also been briefed.

Mr. Speaker, I have spoken out repeatedly about the need to repeal the economic sanctions that were imposed on India and Pakistan last year pursuant to the Glenn amendment after both countries conducted nuclear tests. In fact, I have introduced legislation to repeal these sanctions which have done nothing to promote nuclear non-proliferation or to build confidence between India and Pakistan. What the sanctions have accomplished is to cause American businesses to lose trade and investment opportunities with both India and Pakistan, to disrupt bilateral relations in many other areas not related to military or nuclear technology, and to block important development projects funded by international lending institutions.

The current situation in Kashmir should have nothing to do with our efforts to lift the sanctions imposed by the Glenn amendment.

But the current situation does point to an area where I believe U.S. sanctions should be maintained. The Pressler amendment bans U.S. military assistance to Pakistan unless the U.S. President certifies that Pakistan does not possess nuclear weapons. Late last month, Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs, Karl Inderfurth, testified before a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee in support of repealing the Pressler amendment, and I greatly respect Rick Inderfurth, Mr. Speaker, but I believe he was wrong on this issue.

The justification for the Pressler amendment is Pakistan's long-term in-

volvement in nuclear proliferation. Indeed, the Cox report contains several references to transfers of nuclear technology and missile technology between China and Pakistan. India's nuclear program, on the other hand, is an indigenous program, and India has not been involved in sharing this technology, and this is a very important distinction.

Now, Pakistan's involvement in supporting the militants that continually infiltrate India's territory is an example of how Pakistan promotes regional instability and commits or supports aggression against its neighbors. India is not involved in these kinds of hostile, destabilizing activities.

Mr. Speaker, our priority should be to do what we can to promote stability and economic opportunities in South Asia. The best way we can do that is to lift the sanctions imposed under the Glenn Amendment. While I obviously oppose repealing the Pressler Amendment, in any case we should be focusing now on lifting the sanctions imposed by the Glenn Amendment. We must not be pulled into intervening in the Kashmir issue, since India and Pakistan must resolve this conflict on a bilateral basis.

I urge that American statements on this issue continue to recognize which party is the destabilizing force and which one is trying to defend itself from outside aggression.

CALLING FOR CREATION OF THE NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of discussion about the loss of sensitive military information to China. We must take steps to make sure these losses do not happen again, but that responsibility is not just the administration's, it also falls on us in Congress to fix what is broken.

One of the things that is broken is the organizational structure and management of the nuclear weapons complex in the Department of Energy. Study after study, report after report, commission after commission have found that DOE's management of our nuclear weapons program has been a mess. In fact, I am personally aware of 18 studies over the past 10 years, all of which are highly critical of the management and organization of the DOE related to nuclear weapons.

Just in April, Secretary Richardson's own review team reported that roles and responsibilities are unclear, lines of authority and accountability are not well understood or followed, and this lack of clear accountability and lines of authority is a basic systemic problem which is partly responsible for the serious security lapses.

As serious as those lapses are, they are only one detrimental effect of the DOE management structure. The chal-

lenge of making sure that our nuclear weapons remain safe and reliable well beyond their design life without nuclear testing is enormously daunting. We simply will not be able to do the job, and our national security will not be protected if we fail to correct the management problems that have plagued DOE for 20 years. It is time to act. This is an opportunity we cannot afford to miss.

So, if the problem is so clear and undeniable, even according to DOE's own internal findings, why does not DOE fix the problem itself? After the most recent DOE internal management review, Secretary Richardson announced some reforms which do move in the right direction, but they do not move nearly far enough and still retain confusing, overlapping bureaucracies without one clear chain of command.

GAO has written a report devoted just to this question of why the DOE, fully knowing what the problem is, cannot fix itself, and the bottom line is that for 20 years DOE has not been able to solve the problem, and even with the best of intentions it will not be able to solve the problem alone. Congress must act, and we must act before it is too late.

I will also say that in my view the administration is more focused on containing the political damage arising from the spy scandal than it is on solving the underlying problems which allowed the spy scandal to take place. We in Congress cannot allow ourselves to just respond to today's headlines in a political way, we have to channel all of this energy and concern generated by the scandal into constructive solutions for a long-term problem.

Working with Senators and others, I have drafted a proposal which cuts to the heart of the problem and would set the nuclear weapons complex on the right path to do its job and protect our security. My proposal would create a new agency within the Department of Energy called the Nuclear Security Administration. That agency would be responsible for all aspects of development, testing and maintenance of our nuclear weapons and for the facilities which comprise our nuclear weapons complex. It would have only one person at the top who would be an Under Secretary of Energy, and that person would have the authority to do the job with a clear direct chain of command. If something goes wrong, the Secretary, the President, the Congress know who to hold accountable.

The essential elements of this proposal have been recommended time after time in study after study, and after all this study I think we would be negligent in our duties if we do not take advantage of those studies and reports and implement their recommendations.

I think there is one other point that is important. If the last year has